Tampa Bay April 16

Dear Sir

I fear that you will accuse me of neglect for not offering you something in the botanic al way sooner but I trust you will be charitable and though I am able at present to make but little more than a mere apology, still circumstances may hereafter be more favourable and allow me to be more serviceable than in promises only. I send you a few plants ~~that~~ most of which were collected through the course of last summer by Lieut J. H. Allen of the U. S. Army whilst he was stationed at Fort Brooke. Mr Allen seems eager in the study, and quite devoted to the science of botany, and has brought a few of the specimens that I send you from the memorable Withlacoochee. He was in the battle or battles at camp Izard with Genl. Gaines and one would suppose as he had a taste for laurels he would have neglected flowers, but he has gathered both, and promises me that he will continue his exertions in the latter and endeavour to forward the trophies to you. As to myself I am obliged to leave Florida just at the time when botany is becoming of some interest and though I have spent some time here yet my duties have been arduous and excursions from the Post considered dangerous. Since 9th February I have had in connection to my Indian charge, that of the hospital at this post, and my undivided attention has been required among the sick as much of the time I have been alone. Hence, to attempt to give you any account of the country I must necessarily fall short of a satisfactory description as I have not

The [illegible] plants that I shall [illegible] send you will be [illegible] to you at No 9 Barclay St &c
think you may safely promise yourself something in the way of botany from Lieut
Allen in the course of the summer

[illegible] be a small portion of [illegible]. I must refer you to Lieut. Allen who will after the Seminole War is over take his station at Providence, and as he will be likely to call on you, you will be able to get from him much information relative to the country which I am not able to give. Genl Scott ~~is at~~ was on the 13th inst at Ft Brooke [illegible] an army of about [illegible] men consisting of regulars and volunteers from Louisiana, Alabama, South Carolina and Florida. He has already sent a division of his army under Gen Smith of Louisiana to Charlotte Harbour, and so far as I could learn intended to proceed with the rest of his force [illegible] the Withlacoochee or Amisura River. One division by land the other by water. Two military posts have recently been established within the disputed grounds, Fort Alabama built by Col. Lindsay on the Hillsborough about 25 miles from Ft Brooke, the other is Camp Cooper near the Withlacoochee. Genl Clinch had some skirmishing with the Indians [illegible] on his way from Ft King to Ft Brooke but with the exception of the attack on Ft Alabama about the 1st inst there has been not much fighting since Gen. Gaines's battle on the Withlacoochee which commenced on the 27th [illegible] and continued several days. 5 of his men killed [illegible] of 80 [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] Gen. Gaines [illegible] [illegible] The soldiers [illegible] [illegible]

TORREY CORRESPONDENCE HERBARIUM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

It is the opinion of many that the war cannot be finished this campaign as the rainy season will soon commence in [illegible] it will be quite impossible to keep the field. The principal chiefs among the hostile are known as Powell Alligator Jumper, and Mick-anopee their King, with his prophet Abraham a negro

We have two chiefs ~~and~~ of their people on board the transport Holatee-Mathlee being the head. They number about 400. I value the opportunity that has [illegible] afforded me of comparing the ~~effects~~ efficacy of medicines in [illegible] to the rude superstitious customs of savage [illegible] Whilst acting as surgeon at the post I had in all between 3 & 400 patients under my care; at the same time I had from 80 to 100 Indians. Of the latter I have lost 10 ~~and~~ of the former I lost 4. My care and attention was as much in the Indian camp as in the hospital but an Indian hardly perceive when medicines are necessary at all, [illegible] white man to nurse and feed [illegible] as [illegible] him. Their wants at first sight seem few and their supplies sufficient. A few barks or bushes to ~~cover~~ shelter them [illegible] for their beds, and a blanket to cover them is all [illegible] and I can [illegible] unti[illegible]ely [illegible] and the lives [illegible] of [illegible] profess to want for nothing because their wants are few.

I had the pleasure of finding some favours left by you on board of the Brig the day previous to my leaving New York Thank you for the lens as that frequently clears my view of things, and for the books as they add light to my intellectual life. How long I shall be detained with the Indians I know not nor am I at present able to direct you when communications would be most likely to reach

reach me but remain yours truly and
sincerely
G. W. Hulse

Dr Torrey Esq

Dr. John Torrey
No. 3 Barclay Street
New York

In case I go west as far as the forks of the Canadian I shall return by the hot springs of Arkansas. If I can forward you any thing of interest from this part of the country I will cheerfully do so. Any directions that you might please to give me would be most likely to reach me directed to Little Rock

Yours &c
G W H

Recd. Augt. 16th 1837.
Ansd. Augt. 22nd

Fort Brooke E. F. June 10th 1837

Dear Doctor,

I should apologise for the small offering that I am about to send you: but I always dislike making excuses. The few seeds that I send is from the plant that is indigenous in Florida ~~is~~ called the Arrow Root Perhaps they will vegetate with you and give you an opportunity of seeing the plant itself. It grows abundantly near Cape Florida. the mouths of the Withlacoochee and Suwanee Rivers. Quite extensive establishments were fitted up at the Cape before the war for the purpose of ~~making~~ manufacturing the root into Starch (or rather flour) which is said to be a very simple process merely grinding or grating the Roots then washing ~~and~~ precipitating and drying The article when well prepared is said to be equally as good as the Maranta Arundinacea though this I believe is quite a different plant. It is said that it grows best on sandy light soil. I have seen some roots that would weigh several pounds

I send you also a sample of Seminole Flour which was taken from the stores of the enemy at the Big Cypress near To-hope-ka-Liga Lake on the 28th Jan. It is made I believe from a plant which is a species of Briar very abundant in the South & in Florida grows best in the rich Hammock land, and if we should of its use by the establishments that we have seen for preparing it we should say it was a staple article with the Seminole. It is called by them Coonti Chatte or Red Root whilst the arrow Root which is also much used by them is called Conti Hatkee or White Root—

I regret to say that the prospect of emigrating the Seminoles this summer seems entirely blasted. The 3rd inst was the day appointed for the arrival of Holatouchee or Alla-tou-chee & Alligator (under chiefs) with all the Seminoles tribe, They managed their part so well as to keep secret in a great measure, their movements in the interior and induced us to hope (though with some suspicion) till the 3rd arrived, that they would fulfill their promise and be here ready for embarkation at the appointed time On the night of the 2nd however a party that had for some time past been encamped within 8 or 9 miles of this place ready for embarkation was surrounded in camp by a party of armed men and compelled to emigrate, without delay, in a retrograde order, or to the Southward and Eastward instead of Northward and Westwards

Miccanopie and Jumper head chiefs of the Nation (if nation it should be called) were among those carried off. It is said that the Micco-soukies have prevailed in council and reversed the decrees of the nation, so an end to emigration till we catch them again This Micco-soukie band or tribe as its name imports is without a King or in other words Micco Soucusche, that is King got none, or gone. Any wise the rogues may say they have no King for they soon taken away his authority though they acknowledge one. They have long been considered distinct from the Seminoles though as their party was small they had not much influence in the Nation of late years. The famous Powell or Ascee-Ye-Hola (Oseola in polite foreign literature) commands in this band, though it is said that Sam Jones is greatly his superior in Council. Jumper who is a man considerably advanced in years and is called by many of the officers of the army the Henry Clay of the Seminoles spoke of Powell with more contempt, rather laughed at the idea of Powell's being a man of influence. I believe that Jumper has formerly been a man of more influence than he is at present. He said that he had long wished for peace. Cloud the Hero of Wa-hoo Swamp was taken off with Micconopee & Jumper. Though I believe that it would exceedingly [illegible], as he would to come in and drink a glass of Brandy with us, to say nothing about emigration

Since the terms of capitulation have been signed all the Indians that have been in at the different posts or Camps have been kindly treated, but it seems to me that sterner treatment would in the end be as merciful to the Indian. Harsh vindictive measures should not be used when they are within our power, but if you allow them all their wants, they would run through half the world contains & ~~[illegible]~~ at the end of the year might have a gun a turban a rifle a blanket a pair of mockisons & perhaps a hunting shirt but tobacco and whisky would be Souceechee

Gen. Jesup told me today that he had written for Southern and Northern Indians, so it would seem that he had dispaired of ending the work without more bloodshed

The Genl. has this pleasing reflection however, that if he has failed in this attempt & his failure attributable to error on his part, it has been because he has erred on the side of humanity & has treated too generously a treacherous foe.

that you will excuse the apparent haste of this as it is only a few moments till the vessel sails. Be good enough to remember my complements to Dr Hodges & family. I am very respectfully

your obedient Servant

G W Hulse

J Torrey M.D.

Doctor John Torrey
New York City

I left a Box at New Orleans last June — containing some Bottles of water from the Hot Springs of Washita which I directed sent to you, but I fear you have never received them — I should have written to you concerning them but for the uncertainty of your having received the box. Should it remain at N O when I get out of the [illegible] field country — I shall forward it — G W H.

Recd. March 24

Tallahassee March 7th 1838

Dear Sir

I owe you many apologies for having delayed so long to acknowledge your favour of the 22nd of August last. It did not reach me however till the 3rd of January when I was at New Orleans on my return from Fort Gibson to Fort Brooke E. F.

It affords me real satisfaction ~~that I am able~~ to say to you. I have according to your request been able to collect and forward you some Specimens of the plant Zamia integrifolia.

They were sent by the Brig Wm Penn which sailed from St Marks for New York on the 5th inst. In the collection I have been careful to take an assortment of both sexes or males & females having the Strobiles so well developed that in case they reach you without injury (on board of the vessel) you will be able to see much that is peculiar and interesting in the botanical Character of the plant. They are from two different localities: those with large, long, roots are from the sandy pine woods: those from the Sea Shore (mouth of Withlacoochee) grew very near the salt water & upon the beds of Oyster Shells & in consequence have small roots.

I regret that I have not been able to furnish you

you with some more of the ripe fruit or seeds. The few that I sent you with the other last parcel are all that I have seen. The fruit is an oblong drupe, and when ripe nearly the size of a grain of gourd seed corn.

I send you also by the same vessel the top of a Cabbage palmetto or Chamaerops palmetto which grows abundantly on the sea coast in the Southern country

As this is an important article to ~~the~~ civilized man as well as the savage I have thought it might be interesting to you. The body or caudex is very durable in salt water and said to be proof against worms that are so destructive to ships. It is much used for building wharves in this country

The Seminole obtains a rich article of food from the young leaves in the top; from the abundance of its berries he supplies his molasses, when hard pressed for bread stuff he beats from it a coarse kind of flour and it is said that they obtain salt from it by a process similar to ours for obtaining potash from wood. These are all very uses too coarse for refined society. Still you see the Seminole lives on something more really substantial than air, & perhaps your curiosity to know whether the very trees of the country are made up in nice proportions of salt flour & sugar may induce you to satisfy us as to the chemical properties of the plant

I left Florida in August last on duty with the Creek Emigrants and as I was absent from the Country

the

I transplanted & sent to Lieut J C Casey at Tampa Bay several roots of the Zamia requesting of him that if he obtained any of the ripe fruit from them or otherwise that he would forward some to you

CORRESPONDENCE HERBARIUM COLUMBIA UNIV. N.Y.

the January I have nothing to add to my former pitiful collection of dried plants. The box that I spoke of I presume has been lost, as it was sent summer before last, and contained minerals and water from the Hot Springs of Washita Ark

I owe you many thanks for your kind instructions in the mode of collecting drying & saving plants and should I remain in Florida another summer I hope to furnish you a better collection than those poor apologies heretofore sent. Although the offering is neither equal to your merit, nor what I desired to make it, still you must make allowances for my feeble efforts when I tell you that I have not always enjoyed the most happy time and place for collecting and saving. After my return to Fort Brooke in January last I asked for, and obtained a release from further duty and in the unsettled state of affairs in Florida I think it most likely that I shall go to Louisiana or Mississippi for a permanent residence as both of these states appear to offer advantages superior to those to be found in this Territory

I am much pleased to hear of your flattering prospects in your new Medical College and hope that you will realize your fullest expectations of success and prosperity

We have no late news from the seat of war, many think (here) that the present campaign will not finish it but I am unwilling to harbour any such belief. I have just room to repeat compliments & good wishes from your humble servt

G. B. Hulse

you may expect the Brig Wm Penn in 2 or 3 weeks
I should be happy to hear of your receiving the plants & a letter
will be most apt to reach me addressed to the care of Lieut Grayson
Commissary New Orleans

TALLAHASSEE
1839
M'H 7
FLA.

50

Doctor John Torrey
New York City

53

Ansd Augt. 6th

LIBRARY
NEW YORK
BOTANI
GAR

Rodney Mis: July 7th 1838

Dear Sir

Permit me to introduce to your acquaintance a highly estimable medical gentleman Doctor John Savage of this place

Doctor Savage has long been a resident of this State and his time devoted to the useful and practical part of his profession: but is induced to seek a change of climate this summer on account of his ill health

I trust that in your great city of New York you will have enough to interest. amuse. and comfort the doctor so that his temporary absence from his family and friends will be less severely felt

(My last letter to you was from Tallahassee (Fla) to which I have received no answer

It

Given by A. M. VAIL. from the J. J. Crooke Collection

It was dated about middle of March a little previous to which time I sent you by a vessel (Brig Wm Penn) from St. Marks to N.Y. a quantity of the Zamia put up as you directed. I should be happy to know if you received the same as I am anxious for you to obtain some of those singular plants

By the deliberations of the Committee on Agriculture I see that Doctor Perrine is likely to obtain a grant of land sufficient for experimenting with Tropical plants in the region of South Florida

I heartily wish him a rich reward for his labour

It is my opinion however that the Zamia integrifolia will be found a no less important plant than many of those proposed to be introduced. It was told me by a gentleman who had long resided at Cape Florida that the avigator pear or Laurus persea grew wild at that place and this is one of the choicest tropical fruits

We have a Species of the Canna
here some Specimens of which I
shall endeavour to furnish you
I think it nearly allied to
the maranta arundinacea

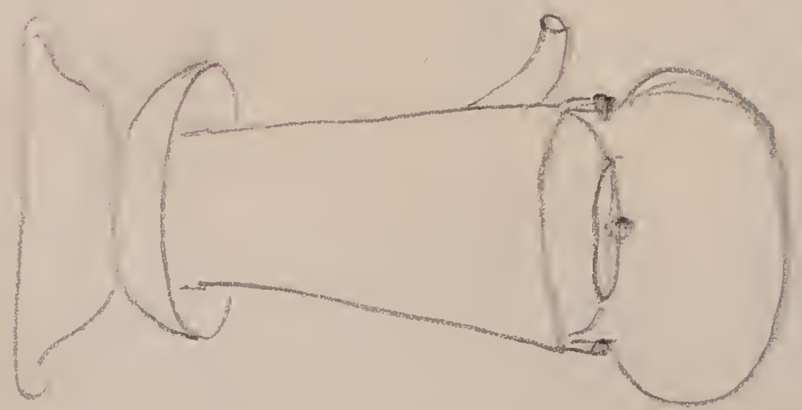
I expect to be in New
York this fall

I am with great
respect your most
obt Servt
G. W. Houlse

Jno. Torrey. M.D.

Doctor John Torrey
New York
City

Dr Savage



[illegible]

Recd. Octr. 18
1840 Rodney Miss. March 4th 1840

To Jno Torrey MD
New York

Dear Sir

I sent you a short time since a box of minerals directed to the Care of S.H. Stone N.Y. They were mostly those that I had put up for you two years ago at Fort Brook Florida. but by some unaccountable delay they did not reach New Orleans till a few weeks ago and were forwarded by my friend Major Clark to this place. Those from Florida you will easily recognise: they appear to be animal remains of the order of Zoophites. There are several species. none of which in my present state of limited information on this branch, of natural science am I able to make out. I observe in those specimens resembling madrepore that the inner surface is generally studded with stalagmites or tubercles of chrystaline structure whilst those of the tubular form ~~are~~ have their inner surface covered with beautiful chrystals. Will the fact of the former being open to the action of external influences whilst the latter is not account for this difference?

I send you also a few specimens of Clay balls taken from the foot of the bluffs at Natchez

These masses being generally of a round or oval shape are frequently taken here for fossil vegetable remains The formation is easily explained if we look of the place where these changes are still going on these immense sand bluffs at Natchez as well as other similar places on the Mississippi an indurated earth interspersed with beds of clay and over these the water generally finds its level in small subterranean passages. The force of the water against the bed occasionally detaches small portions the loose portions being rolled down the stream are brought into a rounded or oval form by their attrition against small stones & pebbles. Circumstances changing the place of rest when the waters dry up and if the balls be left in a bed of sand the outer covering or incrustation is of that formation or if the ball of clay happens to be left upon a bed of gravel its outer covering is necessarily the same. I regret that I have not taken a specimen of the clay from some particular bed, to send you as it appeared to me to be of a very fine quality, perhaps from the fact that its impurities are washed away by the water running over it so long a time.

You will find a few specimens of coarse carbonate of lime the formation of which is recent geologically speaking and is taken from the alluvion of the bluffs.

I almost despair of ever being able to account for the immense deposit of alluvion in this region the highest hills appear to be covered with the same as the river bottoms and from this fact

In so far the whole to be taken from Elkhart. On the bluffs
south of the river the country generally for 20 to 30 miles back
presents the wildest irregularities or rather unevenness of surface
The hills rise from 100 to 150 ft. the high land occurs
in ridges which correspond in their irregular windings
with the sinuosities of the surface. The direction & slope
of these ridges are again thrown into very irregular lateral ridges
so that if the soil of the prairie were spread
out upon a plain the surface would appear irregular
or swelled or undulating. Supposing this country to
have once been covered with an immense lake & the
water from some cause to have suddenly escaped
the same causes that drained off the water would
have operated in carrying off a portion of the loose
deposits from the bed of the lake & thus left the irregular
surface that now presents. You will find a few shells
that are common in this deposit. I am aware a
few plants or shrubs that are the cheapest orna-
ments to our Southern [illegible]. The Bignonia sempervir-
ens or Yellow Jessamine [illegible] I send you some
of the roots of this & they should be planted in loose
rich soil covered very lightly. The Osage Orange
is in botany a poor association to me. I have seen it
growing in [illegible] It is a beautiful ever-
green & deserves a place among ornamental trees
I hope this summer to obtain some of the flowers but
for fear I do not please give me the botanic name

Should you find leisure to write I should be extremely happy to hear from you & shall con-tinue to furnish what little offerings I can find in the way of Curiosities vegetable or mineral

Accept assurances of esteem & respect

I am truly your obt Servt

G. W. Butler

Thermometer at 74° & the weather like Summer vegetation very forward equal to May in Ky. River nearly full & still rising Great fears of an overflow which would destroy the prospects of many planters this season — Yours &c G.W.B.

Dr. Jno Torrey
New York
City

The box was sent before
Ship Republican sailed
from N.O. 1 inst

Holmes Miss June 4th /41

Dear Sir I Send you a Box of Plants & Minerals Concerning which I will write you at large particularly in a few days.

I regret that I could not make the Collection more perfect do not Conclude that Mississippi is deficient in interesting Botanical productions though the lovers of the science are few.

The Minerals I send you are the same as those of Springs I think they are different from Madison as the Carbonate of Lime is deficient and perhaps replaced by other earths.

I am Sir respectfully
Your Obedient
Servt

Glen Fulde

Jackson Purchase a Claim

[illegible]

ansd. April 5th

Rodney Miss Feb 20th 1841

Dear Sir

I have long been promising myself the pleasure of replying to your kind letter of October last which came safe to hand in due time, but thinking that I should visit New Orleans in the early part of the winter I delayed on that account, that I might forward you at the same time the small collection of plants that I had made for you during the summer and fall. Circumstances have prevented my visiting New Orleans as early as I expected and I sent the box containing the articles for you by a friend who promised to put them on board of some ship bound to New York.

SCIENCE HERBARIUM UNIVERSITY

The specimens that are numbered I have kept samples of and should be greatly obliged to you for some short account of their botanical history.

The Jackson purslane, clover or grass as it is variously called is to me a curious little affair. as it springs up in the fall and the early part of winter and continues fresh and blooming through frosts and storms till spring.

The old Planters and Farmers about here say that it was unknown in the country until after Genl Jackson marched through with his army in 1813 / Should it prove to be a new species I would request that its name be continued after that wonderful man in whose footsteps it sprung up and after whom it has already been named by the Planters of this country. It does not appear to belong to the family of Portulaceas though nothing

is

is thought equal to it, that springs up in the pastures for cows that give milk, besides it comes like a true friend in a cheerless winter day in defiance of frosts and storms

The small collection that I send you was mostly made in the latter part of summer and in the fall of the year. for I found it almost impossible to dry plants here in the spring and early part of summer on account of the dampness of the climate. and you will readily perceive the disadvantages that I labour under as occasional absence from my room for a day will frequently spoil the attempts that I make to procure good specimens. I have encouraged some others in the profession to take an interest in botanical science and especially so far as relates to the State. and am greatly in hopes that another season I shall be able to furnish you a much better collection

I am truly obliged for the information you gave me relative to the Maclura aurantiaca. I had thought that the analogy was very strong in many respects to the Mulberry and I had even ingrafted it or budded it upon that tree previous to receiving your letter. but was not successful in having it to grow

I send you some more of the *Madrepore* as you chose to term it but I think that it differs somewhat from that family of animal remains

The Madrepore as a general characteristic is formed around a solid axis of carbonate of lime, whilst these animals have formed about a hollow axis besides the Stalactites and the Stalagmites have evidently been formed since the destruction of the animal by the dripping of water through the apertures that the animal has inhabited and cannot be crystalized carbonate of lime, at least it is not affected by acids nor the highest heat that I could put upon it in a Smiths fire. Some of the specimens you will observe have been entirely closed and such when they contain any water are beautifully studded with crystals. Should you think proper to do so you may offer those I send you to the Lyceum

I received a letter from my brother last fall, who resides in Orange County New York, stating that he had found the tusk of some strange animal which I judge from his account to be the tusk of the Siberian Mammoth. Its dimen-sions were 8 feet long 8 or 10 inches diameter at the large end and curved in shape of a Cows horn. This answers the description of the tusks of those animals that have existed in such numbers about the frozen regions of the north pole but how this [illegible] animal could have found his way to the latitude of New York and among into the swamps of Orange County I shall leave for you to Exp

I requested my brother to have it carefully sent to you for the Lyceum of Nat: Hist. N.Y. As you are the only acquaintance that I have among the members of that institution you must allow me to direct such things to you as I may chance to collect and think may be useful or interesting in the sciences. Whilst in Florida I collected the bones of some animal entirely new to me. They in structure much resembled the tusks ~~bones~~ of the elephant as they were very dense, heavy and entirely solid. In form somewhat cylindric. though largest in the middle and the longest from 36 to 40 inches. They were beyond doubt the ribs of some huge monster as articulating surfaces could be made out. These I intended to send to the Lyceum through you but the unfortunate box that I had packed them in was marked Ship Stores and some thievish rogue stole the box from the wharf when my baggage was landed at St Marks. I have thought

CORRESPONDENCE UNIVERSITY

that this animal might be the Megatherium that it has been said has been found (rather its bones) in several places in South America. To a friend that went to Florida last winter I gave particular directions where he could find more of those remains and he promised faithfully that he would procure some and either send them to you or to me at this place. I fear that he has not done so as I have heard nothing more from him

Doctor Jno Torrey
New York City

I expect to be absent for a few weeks on a visit to Pensacola. May I request you to make my regards to Dr Rodgers & lady. Should it not tax your attention too much I should be happy to hear from you soon

Accept assurances of esteem and respect
Yours truly
G. A. Hulse